

CLAIMS

1. In a computing device having a plurality of applications for managing respective events, individual ones of said applications each represented by an application icon on a screen of a graphical user interface for the device, a method for previewing new events on the screen comprising:

in response to a new event of a one of said applications, visually modifying the one of said applications' icon to notify of the new event.

2. The method of claim 1 comprising invoking the one of said applications in response to the visually modified icon.

3. The method of claim 1 comprising monitoring the one of said applications to determine an occurrence of the new event.

4. The method of claim 1 comprising:

determining a visual modification for the one of said applications' icon in response to the new event; and

using said visual modification when visually modifying.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein said determining a visual modification comprises maintaining a count of new events for the one of said applications.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein said visually modifying the one of said applications' icon comprises displaying a preview of a content of the new event.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein said act of displaying a preview is responsive to a user action.
8. The method of claim 7 wherein said displaying a preview of a content comprises displaying a dialog box over a portion
5 of the screen.
9. The method of claim 1 comprising in response to an activation of the one of said applications having its icon visually modified to notify of the new event, automatically navigating through the one of said applications to the new
10 event.
10. The method of claim 1 wherein said device comprises at least one of a data communication device and a voice communication device; wherein at least some of said plurality of applications manage communications capabilities associated
15 with the device and wherein said events of said at least some of said plurality of applications comprise communication events.
11. The method of claim 10 wherein said device comprises a wireless handheld device.
- 20 12. In a computing device having a controller coupled to a memory, the memory storing a plurality of applications for managing respective events, a graphical user interface (GUI) for the applications, the GUI comprising:
- 25 a main screen for displaying on the computing device, the screen comprising a plurality of icons, each icon associated with one of the plurality of applications;

at least one monitoring component to determine the occurrence of new events of the applications; and

at least one icon modifying component to modify a one of the icons for display on the main screen in response to
5 a new event of the application associated with the one of the icons to notify of the new event.

13. The GUI of claim 12 wherein said GUI maintains a count of new events for respective applications and said icon modifying component modifies in response to said count.

10 14. The GUI of claim 12 wherein the icon modifying component displays a preview of a content of the new event.

15. The GUI of claim 14 wherein the display of a preview is in response to a user interaction with the one of the icons.

16. The GUI of claim 15 wherein said display of a preview
15 comprises displaying a dialog box over a portion of the main screen.

17. The GUI of claim 12, wherein in response to a user interaction with the one of the icons, said GUI invokes the application associated with the one of the icons to display
20 the new event.

18. The GUI of claim 12 wherein said computing device comprises at least one of a data communication device and a voice communication device; wherein at least some of said plurality of applications manage communications capabilities
25 associated with the computing device and wherein said new

events of said at least some of said plurality of applications comprise communication events.

19. The GUI of claim 18 wherein said computing device comprises a wireless handheld device.

5 20. A wireless handheld device comprising:

a controller;

10 a memory coupled to the controller, the memory storing a plurality of applications for execution by the controller to manage respective events and a graphical user interface (GUI) for the applications, the GUI comprising:

15 a main screen for displaying on the device, the screen comprising a plurality of icons, each icon associated with one of the plurality of applications;

at least one monitoring component to determine the occurrence of new events of the applications; and

20 at least one icon modifying component to modify a one of the icons for display on the main screen in response to a new event of the application associated with the one of the icons to notify of the new event.